

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING NO. 199, MARCH 14, 1978
(SALT TWO - 1656)

SUMMARY: SIDES REVIEWED INCONCLUSIVELY AND AT LENGTH
DIFFERENCES ON CRUISE MISSILE RANGE DEFINITION. END
SUMMARY.

1. SOVIETS MADE CLEAR THAT THEIR DEFINITION OF CRUISE
MISSILE RANGE DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT LIMITATIONS
IMPOSED BY EXTERNAL ELEMENTS (E.G., A SHIP-BASED RADAR)
BUT INSTEAD IS BASED ONLY ON THE OPERATION OF THE MISSILE
ITSELF WHEN OPERATING IN ITS "STANDARD DESIGN MODE"
(I.E., ITS DESIGN, ALTITUDE, SPEED), ONLY TAKING INTO
ACCOUNT THE OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS OF ON-BOARD SYSTEMS.
KARPOV ASSERTED OFF-BOARD CRUISE MISSILE RADAR OF "NO
IMPORTANCE" IN DETERMINING CRUISE MISSILE RANGE; SOVIET
DEFINITION REFLECTED CRUISE MISSILE FLIGHT TO FUEL
EXHAUSTION BASED ON OPERATION OF ON-BOARD SYSTEMS.

2. PEREZ PRESSED SOVIETS ON RELATIONSHIP OF POSITIVE
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CONTROL BY EXTERNAL RADAR WITH RANGE OF CRUISE MISSILE.
SOVIETS REPLIED THAT GUIDANCE SYSTEMS COULD DIFFER.
POINT WAS NOT HOW A CRUISE MISSILE WAS GUIDED, BUT THE
RANGE A MISSILE COULD HAVE. IF RANGE LIMIT WAS 2500 KM,
MISSILE SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FLY FARTHER THAN THAT,
WHETHER GUIDED INTERNALLY OR EXTERNALLY. KARPOV SAID IT
WOULD BE "RIDICULOUS" TO ASSOCIATE A RADAR WHOSE CAPABIL-

ITY EXTENDED ONLY TO 300 KM, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH A CRUISE MISSILE CAPABLE OF FLYING TO 2500 KM. HE RECALLED THAT AGREED PROTOCOL LANGUAGE ON CRUISE MISSILE RANGE DEFINITION SPOKE ONLY OF THE MISSILE ITSELF.

3. PEREZ OBSERVED THAT IF HE HAD ASKED A DESIGNER TO DESIGN A CRUISE MISSILE SYSTEM CAPABLE OF EFFECTIVELY ENGAGING TARGETS OUT TO, SAY, 600 KM, BUT ITS RADAR WHICH LIMITED GUIDANCE ONLY WORKED OUT TO 300 KM, HE WOULD FIRE THE DESIGNER. SOVIETS STILL HAD NOT MADE CLEAR WHAT THEY MEANT BY "STANDARD DESIGN MODE."

4. KARPOV ALSO DENIED HAVING CHOSEN GUIDANCE-LIMITED RANGE ON CHART OF POSSIBLE RANGES PREPARED BY US FOR DRAFTING GROUP MEETING NO. 195 (SALT TWO - 1640, FEBRUARY 28). HE ALLEGED US SIDE, NOT SOVIETS, HAD INDICATED GUIDANCE-LIMITED RANGE AS STANDARD DESIGN MODE, AND DENIED EVER HAVING SAID A MISSILE WITH STANDARD DESIGN MODE OF UNDER 600 KM COULD FLY 500 KM MORE THAN THAT. HE SAID IT MUST HAVE BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING. HE SAID NONE OF US SAMPLE DISTANCES CORRESPONDED TO SOVIET DEFINITION, BUT WAS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN WHAT RANGE WOULD CORRESPOND.

5. NEXT MEETING FRIDAY, MARCH 17. EARLE

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